



# NEWS RELEASE

**Arizona House of Representatives**

**Representative Bob Thorpe (R-6)**

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**Wednesday, June 14, 2017**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Representative Bob Thorpe to Introduce Bill to Protect Voters in College Communities**

**STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX** – Representative Bob Thorpe (R-6) today announced plans to introduce legislation to address several problems with voting in Arizona’s college communities while ensuring that voting rights are preserved for all Arizona voters.

**“Many students typically only reside part-time within college communities - most for only six months out of the year,”** said Representative Thorpe. **“In order to unfairly influence local elections, students are registered to vote locally, even though their permanent residence is elsewhere within Arizona or even outside of our state. These students do not influence the elections within their home communities, where their family and neighbors live, but instead they dilute the votes of the local full-time residents within the college communities.”**

**“This legislation will prevent unfair influence in local elections and unethical voter recruitment efforts, and I hope to work together with the Secretary of State to find a solution to these serious problems.”**

Rep. Thorpe’s plan would require:

- Students to register for early voting using their permanent residence, and have their early ballot mailed to their temporary college address, or
- Students to attest that they are full time residents by providing a state issued photo ID with a local “non-campus” address in order to register to vote locally within their college voting district, or
- U.S. students from other states to register to vote in federal elections using the federal form.

Representative Thorpe will work with stakeholders to develop policy next year,

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